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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Ikuo TAKAHASHI et al.**

Group Art Unit: 1711

Serial No.: 10/698,934

Examiner: **Umakant RAJGURU**

Filed: **November 3, 2003**

Confirmation No.: 5043

For: **BIODEGRADABLE PLASTIC COMPOSITION, A MOLDED ARTICLE  
THEREOF AND A METHOD FOR CONTROLLING  
BIODEGRADATION RATE USING THE SAME COMPOSITION**

Attorney Docket No.: **032044**

Customer Number: **38834**

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Date: January 14, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 14, 2004, Applicants amend the claims as follows and submit the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.